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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of )  
THOMAS L. WELSH, )  
GLENN E. BURKET, )  
and JOSEPH E. DICK )  
Serial No. 09/975,917 )  
Filed: October 10, 2001 )  
For: CONNECTOR AND METHOD )  
OF MANUFACTURE )

*8/Prior art sub*  
*6/*  
*12-51m*

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that a copy of this Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement was deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, this 16<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2002.

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SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.97 encouraging the filing of an Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants submit the following in compliance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.56.

Information or art known to the Applicants and having an extent of relevance to the present application has been listed on PTO Form 1449 attached hereto. It consists of three (3) United States patents and one (1) foreign patent (copies attached). The attached references are cited in an "International Search Report" (copy attached) of a counterpart International patent application received not more than three months prior to the date hereof. Applicants have employed Form PTO-1449 for the purpose of convenience of the Office and the Examiner.

No representation is made that a search has been made, that the information is pertinent to the claimed subject matter, or that the information represents the only or the best information. The Applicants do not admit that any of the information they have provided is necessarily prior to their invention but rather that it is information of which they are aware and which they believe possibly should be provided to the Office in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure.

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It is submitted that none of the art provided herein achieves the objects and advantages of the present invention. Applicants believe that the claims of the subject application are patentably distinguishable over the art submitted herewith. The consideration of these documents in conjunction with the Examiner's search and prosecution is requested as contemplated by the rules hereinabove referenced.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: December 16, 2002